



Providing Services to Students with Disabilities in Utah

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The Purpose of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)



Individual Education Program (IEP) & State/Alternate Standards

Regular Diploma, Alternate Diploma, or Certificate of Completion

College and Career Ready

To ensure that all students with disabilities have available to them a free appropriate public education that emphasizes special education and related services designed to meet their unique needs and prepare them for **further education, employment, and independent living.**



Foundational Principles of the IDEA

- Appropriate evaluation
- Free appropriate public education (FAPE)
- Individualized education program (IEP)
- Least restrictive environment (LRE)
- Meaningful parent participation
- Procedural safeguards
 - Consent
 - Confidentiality
 - Dispute resolution



Special Education Eligibility

- Special Education eligibility requires:
 - A student to have a disability according to IDEA
 - The student's disability adversely affect educational and functional performance
 - Special education and related services
- Disability and Diagnosis are not synonymous
 - Consider outside evaluation, including diagnosis
 - Medical doctors/psychologists do not get to determine special education eligibility

IDEA Disability Categories

Disability Category	Count	Percentage
Autism	6355	7.52%
Deafblindness	27	0.03%
Developmental delay (ages 3-8)	7003	8.29%
Emotional disturbance	1902	2.25%
Hard of Hearing/Deafness	547	0.65%
Intellectual disability	3399	4.02%
Multiple disabilities	1561	1.85%
Orthopedic impairment	174	0.21%
Other health impairment	7912	9.37%
Specific learning disability	34487	40.83%
Speech language impairment	20611	24.40%
Traumatic brain injury	247	0.29%
Visual impairment (including blindness)	236	0.28%
Total	84461	



Special Education and Related Services

- Special education services (specially designed instruction) are provided to improve the student's access to regular education
- Related services are provided to improve student's access to special education services
- Services must be based on student need, not school program or disability category



Service Delivery Models

- Personnel who can deliver special education services
 - Special education teacher
 - Related service provider
 - If properly trained and supervised,
 - Paraprofessional
 - Regular education teacher



Least Restrictive Environment and Continuum of Placements

- To the maximum extent appropriate, students with disabilities are educated with similar-aged students who are nondisabled
 - Least restrictive environment (LRE)
- Placement is the level of service, not the location of services and must be provided in the LRE
 - Regular class
 - Special class
 - Special school
 - Home instruction
 - Instruction in hospital and institutions

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Service Delivery Options for Students with Disabilities Besides IDEA

- Student is eligible for special education under IDEA and resides in Utah
 - Carson Smith Scholarship
 - Student must be enrolled in an eligible private school



Service Delivery Options for Students with Disabilities besides IDEA

- Student is not eligible for special education under IDEA
 - Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
 - Covers qualified students with disabilities who attend schools receiving Federal financial assistance
 - Requires that school districts [and charter schools] provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to qualified students in their jurisdictions who have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities
 - Accommodations and services are outlined in a 504 Plan



Federal Funding (FFY2018) for Services for Students with Disabilities

- IDEA School Age Grant (ages 6-21): formula-based
 - \$120,755,355
- IDEA Preschool Grant (ages 3-5): formula-based
 - \$3,551,119
- IDEA State Personnel Development Grant: competitive
 - \$819,000
- Section 504 Plans
 - \$0



State Funding (SFY2019) for Services for Utah Students with Disabilities

- Special Education Funding - \$379,013,900
 - Add-On - \$279,978,300
 - Self-Contained - \$47,428,200
 - Pre-School - \$37,521,500
 - Extended School Year - \$1,517,600
 - Impact Aid - \$6,840,900
 - Intensive Services - \$2,641,300
 - Extended Year for Special Educators - \$3,086,100
- Carson Smith Scholarships
 - \$6,067,900
- Section 504 Plans
 - \$0